

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 3, 7, 10 and 14 have been amended and claim 15 has been canceled as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An in-mold coating method in which a resin molded product is molded and coated in a mold cavity formed between female and male molds, the method comprising:

a first step of charging molten resin into a mold cavity;

a second step of molding a resin molded product after charging of the molten resin into the mold cavity by reducing a volume of the mold cavity in accordance with a thermal contraction of the molten resin to shape the molten resin;

a third step of forming a gap for injecting a coating material between a resin molded product and a surface of the mold cavity by slightly opening the mold when the resin molded product solidifies to an extent to which the product can withstand the injecting pressure and flowing pressure of the coating material; and

a fourth step of injecting the coating material into the gap and clamping the mold again, wherein the mold-clamping forces in the second and fourth steps are controlled so that the deformation of the mold by clamping is substantially the same in the second and fourth steps.

Claim 2 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 1, wherein the mold-clamping forces used in the second and fourth steps are substantially the same.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is smaller than that used in the first step.

Claim 4 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 3, wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is 10% to 50% of that used in the first step.

Claim 5 (original): An in-mold coating method in which a resin molded product is molded and coated in a mold cavity formed between female and male molds, the method comprising:

a first step of charging molten resin into a mold cavity;

a second step of molding a resin molded product after charging of the molten resin into the mold cavity by reducing a volume of the mold cavity in accordance with a thermal contraction of the molten resin to shape the molten resin;

a third step of forming a gap for injecting a coating material between a resin molded product and a surface of the mold cavity by slightly opening the mold when the resin molded product solidifies to an extent to which the product can withstand the injecting pressure and flowing pressure of the coating material; and

a fourth step of injecting the coating material into the gap and clamping the mold again, wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is smaller than that used in the first step.

Claim 6 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 5, wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is 10% to 50% of that used in the first step.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 5 [[or 6]], wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step ranges from 2 to 15 MPa in terms of

pressure per unit area.

Claim 8 (original): An in-mold coating method in which a resin molded product is molded and coated in a mold cavity formed between female and male molds, the method comprising:

a first step of charging molten resin into a mold cavity;

a second step of molding a resin molded product after charging of the molten resin into the mold cavity by reducing a volume of the mold cavity in accordance with a thermal contraction of the molten resin to shape the molten resin; and

a third step of injecting a coating material between a resin molded product and a surface of the mold cavity when the resin molded product solidifies to an extent to which the product can withstand the injecting pressure and flowing pressure of the coating material, wherein the mold-clamping forces in the second and third steps are controlled so that the deformation of the mold by clamping is substantially the same in the second and third steps.

Claim 9 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 8, wherein the mold-clamping forces used in the second and third steps are substantially the same.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 8 [[or 9]], wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is smaller than that used in the first step.

Claim 11 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 10, wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is 10% to 50% of that used in the first step.

Claim 12 (original): An in-mold coating method in which a resin molded product is molded and coated in a mold cavity formed between female and male molds, the method comprising:

a first step of charging molten resin into a mold cavity;

a second step of molding a resin molded product after charging of the molten resin into the mold cavity by reducing a volume of the mold cavity in accordance with a thermal contraction of the molten resin to shape the molten resin; and

a third step of injecting a coating material between a resin molded product and a surface of the mold cavity when the resin molded product solidifies to an extent to which the product can withstand the injecting pressure and flowing pressure of the coating material,
wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is smaller than that used in the first step.

Claim 13 (original): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 12, wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step is 10% to 50% of that used in the first step.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The in-mold coating method according to Claim 12 [[or 13]], wherein the mold-clamping force used in the second step ranges from 2 to 15 MPa in terms of in-mold pressure per unit area.

Claim 15 (canceled)